IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Inventor:

Carl E. Betta et al.

Case: IDS 2001-0006

Serial No.:

To be assigned

Filing Date:

Title: VOICE OVER IP SERVICE IMPLEMENTATION FOR PROVIDING

MULTIMEDIA FEATURES

To:

THE DIRECTOR OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to taking any action on the above identified application, kindly enter the following amendments:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Paragraph 17

In addition to a link to the SCP 28, the call server 26 also has a signaling link to a second database 31, typically referred to as a Local Number Portability (LNP) database because it stores location routing numbers. Telephone subscribers in a given telephone exchange sometimes choose to switch their provider of local service, but yet elect to retain their original telephone numbers. To route a call to such subscribers that have elected to retain their original numbers, the current service provider will typically assign a location routing

number (LRN) corresponding to the original telephone number elected by the subscriber. Prior to routing a call, the call server 26 queries the LNP database 31 for the location routing number, typically via a TCAP over IP query. While the network 10 of FIG. 1 depicts separate databases 28 and 31 for call routing instructions and location routing numbers, respectively, a single database, (i.e., the SCP itself) could contain both call routing instructions and location routing numbers. Thus, a single query to such a combined database would result in a return to the call server 26 of both routing instructions and a location routing number.

REMARKS

In reviewing this application following signature, applicants' attorney noted inconsistency in connection with the description of the location routing numbers stored in the Local Number Portability (LNP) database (31). This amendment seeks to correct the inconsistency. Ample support exists in the specification for such amendment.

In the event that any issues remain following entry of this amendment, applicants' attorney invites the examiner to contact him (908) 221-5714 for either a personal or telephone interview if the examiner believes that such would expedite the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted

Carl E. Bettaget al.

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Date

VERSION SHOWING MARKED-UP CHANGES

Paragraph 17 in the Specification

In addition to a link to the SCP 28, the call server 26 also has a signaling link to a second database 31, typically referred to as a Local Number Portability (LNP) database because it stores [local] location routing numbers. Telephone subscribers in a given telephone exchange sometimes choose to switch their provider of local service, but yet elect to retain their original telephone numbers. To route a call to such subscribers that have elected to retain their original numbers, the current service provider will typically assign a location routing number (LRN) corresponding to the original telephone number elected by the subscriber. Prior to routing a call, the call server 26 queries the LNP database 31 for the location routing number, typically via a TCAP over IP query. While the network 10 of FIG. 1 depicts separate databases 28 and 31 for call routing instructions and [local] location routing numbers, respectively, a single database, (i.e., the SCP itself) could contain both call routing instructions and location routing numbers. Thus, a single query to such a combined database would result in a return to the call server 26 of both routing instructions and a location routing number.